



Hi Larry, here is a quick summary of our meeting with Rick Swenson et al., on the Chesapeake Bay model, CEAP, and TMDL. I thought the meeting was very productive with some solid action items that will move us forward on all three issues discussed. Thanks for making the trip over to USDA to join us. Talk to you soon! K

P.S. I attached a word file of this summary in case the formatting didn't translate over email. K

Participants:

Larry Elworth, Ag Counselor to Administrator, EPA
Kelly Shenk, Ag Policy Coordinator, EPA CBPO
Roberta Parry, EPA Headquarters, very experienced with NRCS CEAP work.
Rick Swenson, Special Assistant, Strategic Natural Resources Initiatives, NRCS
Glenn Carpenter, National Leader, Animal Husbandry, NRCS (Beltsville) (will be NRCS point of contact for all discussions on CB Watershed Model)
Doug Lawrence, Deputy Chief, Soil Survey and Resource Assessment,
Daryl Lund, NRCS, Branch Chief, Resources Inventory and Assessment Division, NRCS
Jay Atwood, NRCS, Resources Inventory and Assessment Division, NRCS, Economist
Lee Norflect, NRCS, Resources Inventory and Assessment Division, Soil Scientist
Bob Kellogg (invited, not sure if he was on call), NRCS, CEAP National Assessment, Cropland

Issues Addressed:

1. Agricultural Industry Concerns and Questions about Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Model:

NRCS discussed the ag community's uncertainty about the CB Watershed Model.

Action/Decision:

- Over the next three months, Glenn Carpenter, NRCS, will meet with CB Watershed Modelers to review model, data, and assumptions and provide any feedback.
- NRCS will work with ag constituency to communicate model and address concerns.

2. EPA Concerns about Lack of Coordination with NRCS on Chesapeake CEAP:

EPA expressed the need for transparency and coordination with NRCS on Chesapeake Conservation Effectiveness Assessment Project (CEAP) that is underway in the watershed.

Action/Decision:

- NRCS CEAP modelers will meet with EPA and the CB Watershed Modelers to discuss Chesapeake CEAP project, preliminary results, and coordinate communications messages (Key EPA Leads will be Roberta Parry, EPA Headquarters and Gary

Shenk, EPA CBPO)

- Mid-March: NRCS will provide summary of similar Upper Mississippi River CEAP project and results. NRCS will provide detailed project description for Chesapeake CEAP including methodology, data used, models used, etc.
- Early to mid-April – share preliminary results, compare with Bay Watershed Model findings, if there are differences explain why we see differences, and develop communication strategy.

3. USDA Role in TMDL:

Given USDA's interest in supporting the states in meeting the state Bay TMDL Watershed Implementation Plans and 2-year milestones, EPA suggested they give a full TMDL briefing to USDA/NRCS.

Actions/Decisions:

- possibility of holding a TMDL briefing in late February at meeting.

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